



S/N 09/412,085

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	MIZRAHI ET AL.	Examiner:	PRATS
Serial No.:	09/412,085	Group Art Unit:	1651
Filed:	OCTOBER 4, 1999	Docket No.:	6786.141US
Title:	PROCESS FOR PRODUCING A PURIFIED LACTIC ACID SOLUTION		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 3, 2001.

By: *Shamun W. Ganes*
Name:

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2000, Applicants provide the following Amendments and Remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2-12, 14-20 and 22-23 without prejudice, amend claim 1, and add new claims 24-39 as follows.

1. (AMENDED) A process for generating a purified solution of lactic acid, comprising the steps of:

- B₁
- a. providing a source of lactate material which includes calcium lactate;
 - b. concentrating the source of lactate material by removing at least about 10% of the volume of the volume of the source of lactate materials without reducing the concentration of lactate to form a concentrated solution;
 - c. acidulating the source of lactate material with sulfuric acid to form an acidulated slurry which includes lactic acid and calcium sulfate;